

# 441 Paul Russell Road • Tallahassee, Florida 32301-6996 Telephone (850) 878-3247 (878-FAIR) • FAX (850) 942-6950 Information Line (850) 671-8400 E-mail: northfloridafair@comcast.net

February 16, 2005

Hon. Bill Proctor Leon County Commissioner Leon County Courthouse 301 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

**Dear Commissioner Proctor:** 

Consistent with our letter dated August 30, 2002 and signed by Lee Vause, we, the Board of Directors of the North Florida Fair Association, reaffirm that our position remains unchanged in regard to the relocation of the fairgrounds.

We look forward to cooperating with all concerned as this exciting possibility moves forward.

Sincerely,

Don Keenan President

North Florida Fair Association

Visit us at: www.northfloridafair.com



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Executive Secretary and Manager:

Ron Beckey, C.F.E.

### **Executive Committee:**

Chris Prescott, President J. Lee Vause, Vice President

Lawrence Heitmeyer George Henry Don Keenan Jane Sauls R. E. Stanaland Robert West Herschel Williams

### Directors:

Kim Fiorini Bruce Host Henry Lewis, III Payne Midyette, Jr. Mike Whiddon Ronnie Youngblood

## **Director Emeritus:**

James Alford Jim Fogarty Jack Whiddon August 30, 2002

Hon. Bill Proctor Leon County Commissioner Leon County Courthouse 301 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

**Dear Commissioner Proctor:** 

Over the past few months we have had several conversations relative to the County acquiring the North Florida Fairgrounds for the purpose of redevelopment. I believe this is a noteworthy effort and am writing to confirm that the North Florida Fair Association has agreed to cooperate with the County in this endeavor. There is no question that the Fairgrounds is an extremely desirable parcel of property which should be attractive to a developer for a mix of commercial, office and residential uses.

As you know from our several discussions there remains a longterm lease of the property to the Fair Association. Our Association has agreed that so long as the County locates and acquires a parcel of property which the Association deems suitable we are agreeable to releasing our leasehold interest in the Fairgrounds. Of course this would also require that the facilities currently constructed on the grounds would also be replaced. The Association will work closely with the County to ensure that the cost of such facilities would be as cost effective as possible. Our goal, as I am sure is yours, is to obtain a facility which serves the public interest for the many varied uses that the fairgrounds currently serves.

I know you and the County share this view because when all is said and done the citizens of the County will be the ultimate beneficiary of whatever is done.

The Fair Association feels strongly that we should not be an impediment to the County pursuing this redevelopment strategy. And we will not be.

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We have agreed that we would no ask for any compensation for the still remaining years of the lease so long as a satisfactory agreement could be reached which was in accord with the above stated positions.

I and the other members of the Board of Directors of the Association pledge to you our cooperation as this exciting possibility moves forward.

Lee Vause

Vice-President

North Florida Fair Association